The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

Entered as second class matter December 29, 1911, at the Postoffice at Washington, D. C., under the act of August 24, 1912.

AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

VOL. 7. NO. 32. WASHINGTON, D. C. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1917. WHOLE NO. 344.

LEATHER WORKERS GET U. S. CONTRACT

Washington, Nov. 3.—"Agreement Between the United States of America, and ..... Harness and Saddlery Described," is the imposing title to an agreement entered into between the war department, leather contractors and the United Leather Workers' International union, operating through the national harness and saddlery adjustment commission, which was recently organized by President Wilson. President Bryan of the leather workers' international is a member of this commission. The contractors are represented by one member and the war department by two representatives.

The agreement will continue during the war. It provides that there shall be no interruption of work on any government contract. The wages in no case be lower than those now in effect; that non-unionists shall be paid the same as members of the Leather Workers' union, and in the event the commission approves changes in the wage scale "compensatory adjustments shall be made by the United States in accordance with the recommendations of the commission." All controversies will arising out of differences between contractors and employees and it is specifically stated that the eight-hour day, which has prevailed for some time, shall be the invariable rule. The union's wage scale of 50 cents an hour is to be applied and piece work must be figured so that an average skilled mechanic will earn at least 50 cents an hour. Between 35 and 50 per cent of the leather contractors on government work have accepted this agreement, which will make dry reading for employers of "rah-rah" variety, but inasmuch as they "talk smart", when they refuse to recognize organized labor, it is quite probable that every leather contractor will accept this agreement as the government will naturally place its contracts with those employers who are protected against strikes.

A MACKENZIE KING SKETCH.

Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, Nov. 2.—Organized labor's charge that Mackenzie King, sat to John D. Rockefeller, Jr., is the author of the scurrile "can't-strike" law, is supported by the Hamilton Herald in an editorial which includes a short sketch of King, who was connected with the Canadian department of labor when the Lemieux act was passed. This legislation prohibits strikes in public utilities until after a 30-day investigation. It served as a model for similar legislation in Colorado, which was urged by Mr. Bell, the Colorado and Canadian acts have been denounced by organized labor.

The Hamilton Herald says: "Mr. Lemieux took but little interest in the work of the Labor Department, which was then merely an adjunct of the postoffice department. In his time the real thought of the administration of the labor department was the deputy minister, Mackenzie King. King, a young man fresh from the university, where he had specialized in economics, and labor, and had been a genuine enthusiast for his work, was the first of the ministers of labor to devote his time to the department. He was regarded as a sort of kid-gloved dilettante and looked up to the study of labor as he would that of any other interesting subject—book fashion. But in time the workers was one of condescending patronage rather than of real sympathy. This attitude of Mr. King was, we believe, wrong and unjust to him, but there is no doubt that it was the view of members of the Canadian trades unions sized up that gentleman."

ARBITRARY MILL OWNERS.

Los Angeles, Cal., Nov. 3.—The Citizen, official paper of the local trade union movement, calls attention of daily newspapers to the fact that 600 Los Angeles organized mill workers are on strike and that their demands are fair as rejected recommendations by federal and state mediators.

The Citizen says: "What would happen if the mill workers took this position. Also, would the local Merchants' and Manufacturers' association favor such tactics?

The federal mediator recommended a 15 1/2 per cent wage increase and the gradual introduction of the eight-hour day.

The Mill Owners' association replied that it "has no power to act as a body" and added:

"But it is quite apparent the association," says the Citizen, "has authority to act as a body to prevent the payment of living wages, to hold on to the nine-hour work day and to perpetuate the intolerable working conditions prevailing in Los Angeles."

R. R. TONNAGE JUMPS.

Washington, Nov. 3.—The federal railroads' war board reports that freight statistics for July, the last month for which official figures are available, show that the railroads handled 20.2 per cent more that month than for the same period in 1916. This increase was made possible with practically no additional equipment. Last year the July statistics show that railroad locomotives ran on an average 68.4 miles a day. In July this year the average was 63.8 miles. Freight cars made an average of 28.4 miles in July, 1916, while in July, 1917, they made 28.2 miles, an increase of 2.7 per cent. One of the most encouraging items of progress says the report, and one for which railroad employes are entitled to credit, is the steady reduction in the number of freight cars and locomotives in the shops on awaiting repairs.

FAILS TO CHECK RECALL.

San Francisco, Nov. 3.—Friends of District Attorney Fickert have been defeated by his opponents in their attempt to check the recall of that official because of his action in handling the conviction of Thomas J. Mooney.

The superior court issued an order which halted the proposed recall on the ground that some of the signatures were illegal. Judge Wilbur in court has reversed this ruling and the election will now be passed upon by San Francisco's citizens.

PAPER MAKERS FORCED OUT.

Oregon City, Ore., Nov. 3.—The non-union shop policy of local paper mills has forced a strike on the Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers' union.

It is the only strike in the "open shop" claims by employers—no discrimination against union men or unionists. But among the employers show their hostility to trade unionism by striking.

STRIKE GUARDS GALORE.

Hopkinton, Ohio, Nov. 2.—Striking iron molders declare that the management of the Hopkinton Rolling Mills has caused enough strike guards to check the kaiser's rush into Paris.

FEDERAL MEDIATORS END COPPER STRIKE

Globe, Ariz., Nov. 2.—The president's special labor commission has adjusted the Globe-Miami copper district, which started last July. The settlement includes the establishment of a workers' committee for each mine, wholly independent of any influence exercised by the operators. The committee is to be composed exclusively of men working at each mine with the right of union membership. It may have representative in the presentation of grievances, in the event that this machinery fails to adjust differences, a United States arbitrator, acceptable to both parties, will decide any disputed questions. The settlement also includes the employment of colored men, except those guilty of seditious utterances against the United States and those who are members of any organization that does not recognize the obligation of a contract. In the matter of wages the commission has important principle as introduced, in that the district is treated as an industrial unit instead of by individual mines. Re-employment is to be secured through a central employment committee for the district.

While there were no deportations of workers to report, it is said that in every officer but one of the Globe Miners' union was arrested on the charges of criminal syndicalism and convicted by the Washington state federation of labor.

SUFFRAGE LAW NOT VALID.

Indianapolis, Nov. 3.—The state supreme court has ruled that the Indiana woman suffrage law is invalid because the state constitution defines voters as "male citizens."

The court held the question before it was not constitutional only and did not take up the contentions of the interests attacking the law that to permit women to vote would necessitate additional expense and much confusion.

In its decision, the court said the right of suffrage was not a natural right, but a political right, a political privilege, and was a matter for the people to decide in their capacity as creators of the constitution or organic law. Discussing the argument of the framers for the women that the legislature could give women the privilege of voting regardless of the constitution, the court declared that electors must be "male" citizens, if years old or more, the court said if this construction were to be legislature could pass a law permitting persons less than 21 years old to vote. Opponents of woman's suffrage are hopeful that this decision will result in setting aside similar laws in other states whose constitution limits suffrage to "male citizens," but in Indiana it is believed that, notwithstanding, North Dakota is cited as one of these states.

SEES PERIL TO GIRLS.

Pittsburg, Pa., Nov. 3.—America's girls who go into munitions factories and mills to take the places of men gone to war are in danger, both of beauty, laying themselves liable to physical and moral hazards and are tending to degenerate the race, declared Mrs. Mary McLean, of New York delegates to the war work council of the Young Women's Christian association.

"The argument is said that the woman disfigured is a woman lost," meaning, she said, that when a man marries he wants a girl with soft hands, whose white fingers and not hardened by daily toil in a mill.

STRIKE FOR EIGHT HOURS.

Boston, Nov. 3.—Members of Machinists' union employed as repairmen on local automobile trucks and delivery wagons are on strike for an eight-hour day. The unionists state that the city has been unable to operate without employing the employers to grant the request of their employes, but the suggestion was ignored.

BAKERS FORCED OUT.

Reading, Pa., Nov. 3.—Violation of an agreement with the Bakers' union by non-union men by the Arnold Baking company has forced the Bakers' union to call a strike at this plant.

IRON MOLDERS UNITE.

Augusta, Ga., Nov. 3.—Iron molders employed by railroad companies in shops of this city have organized and affiliated with the International Iron Molders' union.

"SILENT MAJORITY" BLAMED FOR STRIKE

Indianapolis, Nov. 3.—The United Workers' Journal, official magazine of the United Mine Workers of America, published in this city, takes a stand against those members who remained silent while their movement was betrayed by a select few, and for too long enough to start recent strikes over wage demands.

The journal says: "Wage agreements with operators that are intended to avert strikes, and the miners' journal says that they usually do, have been seen for permitting a minority of lost-heads, or disgruntled workers to bring about a condition that can scarcely be excused. The men who have enjoyed the benefits of the organization know then and know now that a shut down at such a time as this is disloyal to the organization and can only invite disaster to that great institution that aided to uphold.

"We know they eventually asserted themselves and showed they did they were able to control. Had they so asserted themselves in the beginning there would have been no trouble.

"We hope and believe that this will be the last of such indefensible action by the silent majority. Much injury has been done to the cause of organized labor. We believe the information that the representatives of associations that have signed agreements organized will promptly in attempting to turn the miners' deficiency to their own advantage, in instances where such violation of contract by employers can discriminate against union men will coincide. But among the employers show their hostility to trade unionism by violating.

STRIKE GUARDS GALORE.

Hopkinton, Ohio, Nov. 2.—Striking iron molders declare that the management of the Hopkinton Rolling Mills has caused enough strike guards to check the kaiser's rush into Paris.

EMPLOYERS OF JAPS CRY LABOR SHORTAGE

Washington, Nov. 2.—Writing as an associate member of Herbert C. Hoover, federal food administrator, James Duncan answers J. L. Nagle, general manager of the California fruit exchange, who forwarded resolutions by his organization that there is a shortage of farm labor in the state and that farmers should be exempted from military service.

"It could be well wished," writes Mr. Sullivan, "that the authors of these resolutions had put their machinery fails to adjust differences, a United States arbitrator, acceptable to both parties, will decide any disputed questions. The settlement also includes the employment of colored men, except those guilty of seditious utterances against the United States and those who are members of any organization that does not recognize the obligation of a contract. In the matter of wages the commission has important principle as introduced, in that the district is treated as an industrial unit instead of by individual mines. Re-employment is to be secured through a central employment committee for the district.

While there were no deportations of workers to report, it is said that in every officer but one of the Globe Miners' union was arrested on the charges of criminal syndicalism and convicted by the Washington state federation of labor.

SUFFRAGE LAW NOT VALID.

Indianapolis, Nov. 3.—The state supreme court has ruled that the Indiana woman suffrage law is invalid because the state constitution defines voters as "male citizens."

The court held the question before it was not constitutional only and did not take up the contentions of the interests attacking the law that to permit women to vote would necessitate additional expense and much confusion.

In its decision, the court said the right of suffrage was not a natural right, but a political right, a political privilege, and was a matter for the people to decide in their capacity as creators of the constitution or organic law. Discussing the argument of the framers for the women that the legislature could give women the privilege of voting regardless of the constitution, the court declared that electors must be "male" citizens, if years old or more, the court said if this construction were to be legislature could pass a law permitting persons less than 21 years old to vote. Opponents of woman's suffrage are hopeful that this decision will result in setting aside similar laws in other states whose constitution limits suffrage to "male citizens," but in Indiana it is believed that, notwithstanding, North Dakota is cited as one of these states.

SEES PERIL TO GIRLS.

Pittsburg, Pa., Nov. 3.—America's girls who go into munitions factories and mills to take the places of men gone to war are in danger, both of beauty, laying themselves liable to physical and moral hazards and are tending to degenerate the race, declared Mrs. Mary McLean, of New York delegates to the war work council of the Young Women's Christian association.

"The argument is said that the woman disfigured is a woman lost," meaning, she said, that when a man marries he wants a girl with soft hands, whose white fingers and not hardened by daily toil in a mill.

STRIKE FOR EIGHT HOURS.

Boston, Nov. 3.—Members of Machinists' union employed as repairmen on local automobile trucks and delivery wagons are on strike for an eight-hour day. The unionists state that the city has been unable to operate without employing the employers to grant the request of their employes, but the suggestion was ignored.

BAKERS FORCED OUT.

Reading, Pa., Nov. 3.—Violation of an agreement with the Bakers' union by non-union men by the Arnold Baking company has forced the Bakers' union to call a strike at this plant.

IRON MOLDERS UNITE.

Augusta, Ga., Nov. 3.—Iron molders employed by railroad companies in shops of this city have organized and affiliated with the International Iron Molders' union.

"SILENT MAJORITY" BLAMED FOR STRIKE

Indianapolis, Nov. 3.—The United Workers' Journal, official magazine of the United Mine Workers of America, published in this city, takes a stand against those members who remained silent while their movement was betrayed by a select few, and for too long enough to start recent strikes over wage demands.

The journal says: "Wage agreements with operators that are intended to avert strikes, and the miners' journal says that they usually do, have been seen for permitting a minority of lost-heads, or disgruntled workers to bring about a condition that can scarcely be excused. The men who have enjoyed the benefits of the organization know then and know now that a shut down at such a time as this is disloyal to the organization and can only invite disaster to that great institution that aided to uphold.

"We know they eventually asserted themselves and showed they did they were able to control. Had they so asserted themselves in the beginning there would have been no trouble.

"We hope and believe that this will be the last of such indefensible action by the silent majority. Much injury has been done to the cause of organized labor. We believe the information that the representatives of associations that have signed agreements organized will promptly in attempting to turn the miners' deficiency to their own advantage, in instances where such violation of contract by employers can discriminate against union men will coincide. But among the employers show their hostility to trade unionism by violating.

STRIKE GUARDS GALORE.

Hopkinton, Ohio, Nov. 2.—Striking iron molders declare that the management of the Hopkinton Rolling Mills has caused enough strike guards to check the kaiser's rush into Paris.

INSIST ON EIGHT HOURS.

Tacoma, Wash., Nov. 2.—At a conference of 50 representatives of purchasing agents of railroads, lumber and shingle weavers, the eight-hour day was again demanded.

UNIONISTS CAN REFUSE NON-UNION SHOP WORK

Omaha, Nov. 2.—Judge Leslie, of the district court of this county, has instructed the attorney General Reed's plan to "settle" labor disputes by the "injunction process."

Last spring members of the Business Men's association locked out several organized crafts and later refused to assist the state in mediating the disputes. In its report to the state board of mediation and conciliation blamed employers for the turmoil.

Attorney General Reed started injunction proceedings against both employer and employed, and filed suit under a state law which prohibits combinations in restraint of trade. He charges unionists with conspiracy with a conspiracy in violation of the act.

Judge Leslie ruled:

"There can be no question that the unions have the right to organize, to combine, for their protection and welfare. And their right to do things in furtherance of their aims so far as they do not interfere with the rights of others, is clear. They may approach their employers with a request to employ only union men; they may submit from time to time with requests to join the union or to quit work.

"Unions not directly involved in a strike may, as a last resort, refuse to work on jobs held by them to be "unfair," and may, so far as reasonable, ask men with a request to leave the work or to join the union, so long as they use no violence, make no threats nor employ intimidation."

The right employers to protect themselves is usually strongly put with the clear statement that "employers are protected in strikes or outside and disinterested parties in the restraint of

OMAHA UNIONS WIN.

Indianapolis Editor Dobson of the Plasterer refers to Omaha Mayor Hunt's "open order" mob but admit has "practically shattered by the Omaha unionists" not only anti-

Editor Dobson's association of its business and on, and admits that "for the moment" the power of trade leadership has been undermined and its prestige so in this instance.

"All is because membership of the building trades of Omaha had the stamina to put down law and order' mobs and insist upon their rights of collective bargaining in case of disputes) with employers, instead of with unincorporated, irresponsible and irresponsible individuals, who defy local, state and federal laws to crush honest labor.

"The building trades unions of Omaha had no quarrel with their employers; there was no strike of any kind. The 'law and order' mob ordered employers to lock out employes, organized thereof turned having their business destroyed and their workers denied jobs. The employers' order lockout, employees and employes offered to arbitrate, but were scrupulously ignored.

"On the whole, it is the most rank example of 'law and order' mob autocracy in this country."

JURY BAN ON UNIONISTS.

San Francisco, Nov. 3.—In selecting a jury to try Israel Weinberg, a cloak maker, for the murder of Detective Judge Seawell ruled that no member of a trade union or other organization that contributed funds for the defense or prosecution of strike cases is eligible to serve as a juror. Under this rule the court excused a member of the Typographical union, although it was shown that when the Typographical union levied an assessment of one hour's wages on individual members to aid the defendants.

Judge Seawell also affects members of the chamber of commerce and this organization's bitter anti-union war will have no jurors on hand. This devious ways known to men possessing great economic power.

FUR WORKERS WIN.

Montreal, Canada, Nov. 2.—The two locals of fur workers have won a complete victory in their three-months' battle against a general lockout.

The employers are organized and last month they attempted to trick the strikers by offering to confer and accept terms. At this meeting the unions would be recognized. The workers were distrustful, but joined the union and a number of them found that the employers insisted on non-union shops. Later the manufacturers made a general agreement which includes union recognition, the 48-hour week and a 10 per cent wage increase. General President Miller of the International Fur Workers' union assisted the strikers.

WANTS PICKETING STOPPED.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Nov. 2.—The Rose-Mohan Foundry company wants an injunction issued by Judge Moore's union No. 23 from picketing its plant. Six years ago several of the iron molders' locals struck against this concern. An injunction was issued then, and the company asks that these injunctions be renewed. The charge is contempt of court because of their alleged violation of the ancient writ.

TEAMSTERS STRIKE.

Bloomington, Ill., Nov. 2.—Non-union teamsters, lured into organized fellowships in a general strike, are seeking to establish an open shop. Teamsters and chauffeurs are asking for an increase of 25 cents a ton and hourly wages are increased 5 cents an hour, which will make their rate 32 a day instead of 27.50.

FARMERS' (?) PAPER SNARLS.

San Francisco, Nov. 2.—The Pacific Rural Press snarls that the "fall is trying to wag the dog" because the organized farmers of the state have perfected a legislative alliance with California's organized workers.

BREWERY WORKERS GAIN.

Uniontown, Pa., Nov. 3.—Organized brewery workers of this district have been given a voluntary wage increase of $1.5 a week.

UNCLE SAM STARTS EDUCATIONAL PLAN

Washington, Nov. 3.—Even though Uncle Sam is spending vast sums for war purposes, time for industrial readjustment has just unloosened his purse strings and handed out nearly half a million dollars to seven states which have agreed to work with him on a joint vocational education plan. The government's total amount available for this fiscal year is $1,800,000, and as the states must duplicate every dollar it means that $2,600,000 will be used in this country the first year to install a knowledge of industrial training, home economics and agriculture in the youth of our country.

Annual appropriations are provided by congress until 1925, when the seven states will receive $7,000,000 annually. This law—known as the Smith-Hughes vocational training act—was passed by the last congress, and is intended to supplement the public schools, as it is shown that only 18 per cent of America's boys and girls over 14 years of age are going to school.

This law is enforced by a commission, known as the federal board for vocational education, which comprises of the secretaries of agriculture, commerce and labor, the federal commissioner of education and three private citizens. The last three are Arthur Holder, Hoke Smith, representative of the A. F. of L. representative labor; Charles A. Greathouse of Indiana, agricultural interests, and Munroe of Massachusetts, commerce.

To build up a solid national education system and check state boards from wandering off into the "fads" of education, the law provides that before a state is entitled to federal aid, its plan must be indorsed by the federal board. After this indorsement, the government, through its board of vocational education, will give that state one dollar for every dollar it appropriates for this purpose.

SHIP YARDS' STRIKE ENDS.

Portland, Ore., Nov. 3.—The ship yards' strike has been adjusted and 2,000 workers have returned to work.

The strike was caused by a demand for improved working conditions. Employers said their workers were "unpatriotic" because they suspended work at this time. The workers answered this charge by adopting the following resolutions:

"Be it resolved, that we, the union ship workers of the Willamette and Columbia rivers, respectfully petition the United States shipping board, the commander ship yards on these rivers and allow us the opportunity to demonstrate our loyalty and patriotism by completing these ships in the shortest possible time.

"Be it further resolved, that we assure the United States government of our patriotism in this emergency in a successful termination, and that we will guarantee the government a speed equal to both the construction of these ships and the elimination of unskilled, high salaried, inefficient labor, management and that we, the union ship workers of the Willamette and Columbia rivers, offer our services to the government of the United States free of charge, and that a committee be appointed by the executive committee of the workmen's and soldiers' delegates council, department of international relations of Russia, Vice-President Perham and Secretary Morrison having also pledged hearty cooperation with Mr. Baum upon the same subject of the message, and the message being a request for the A. F. of L. to call or to participate in an international conference with the labor specialists of all countries, having given the subject matter full consideration, declare in favor thereof.

"That we regard it as untimely and inopportune, considering no one knows when, but on the contrary harmful, to hold an international conference at this time in the future with the representatives of all countries, including enemy countries, and we are unalterably opposed to participation in such conference.

"That a committee be appointed to wait upon the labor members of the council and present to them the sentiments of this body."

WON'T JOIN WAR CONFAB.

Washington, Nov. 3.—The A. F. of L. executive council has declined at this time to join in an international war conference of workers and makes public the following statement:

"The executive council of the A. F. of L. at its recent session had under consideration a report made to it by President Gompers after a conference with Mr. Jacob Baum, who claims to be the representative of labor, and with a message from the executive committee of the workmen's and soldiers' delegates council, department of international relations of Russia, Vice-President Perham and Secretary Morrison having also pledged hearty cooperation with Mr. Baum upon the same subject of the message, and the message being a request for the A. F. of L. to call or to participate in an international conference with the labor specialists of all countries, including enemy countries, and we are unalterably opposed to participation in such conference.

"That a committee be appointed to wait upon the labor members of the council and present to them the sentiments of this body."

Mayors employed by the Rockefeller concern have ordered their arrest on the Rockefeller "union" by joining the United Mine Workers. These mayors have also made public declarations similar to John D.'s, but later changed their minds.

SOLDIERS' MAIL WEIGHT CUT.

Washington, Nov. 2.—An order by the postmaster general limits fourth-class or domestic parcel post matter intended for the American soldiers in any force in France, to seven pounds. The order is the result of that of July 24 last which fixed the weight limit at 20 pounds. The change was made necessary because of French railroad companies will not carry mail packages of more than seven pounds each. This will cause delays, and perhaps the loss of packages now being awaited by American soldiers at the front, the postal authorities have expressed the hope that the change in weight will not be forgotten.

BUTCHERS GAIN.

Joliet, Ill., Nov. 2.—Butchers have signed an agreement with the largest meat markets in this city. Journeymen butchers are to get 27 per cent increase, from $22 to $27 for first-class workmen. $21 for second-class and $20 for third-class workmen. Helpers are to get 20 cents an hour. Members of the union will be given employment preference and no apprentices will be employed where practicable.

BOOT WORKERS STRIKE.

Galveston, Tex., Nov. 2.—Mallory Bros. boot and shoe factory has closed because this shipping company broke an agreement made with the men when they struck for higher wages a few weeks ago. The company's attempt to establish a non-union shop is the direct cause of its misrepresentation of conditions.

METAL POLISHERS WIN.

Dayton, Ohio, Nov. 3.—The Metal Polishers' union has reinstated its several months' strike against the Dayton Metal Products company, with the company. The strikers won practically all of their demands.

FEDERAL LABOR PLAN IS NOT COMPULSORY

Washington, Nov. 3.—The executive council of the A. F. of L. has issued a statement in which it declares that the principle of universal service, public service reserve, and will submit the plan to the executive council of national and international unions for criticism and suggestions. This statement is made for the jurisdiction of the United States department of labor, and is designed to mobilize labor for war purposes.

It is entirely voluntary and its chief purpose is to secure an adequate supply of workers to agree to place themselves at the disposal of the government for emergency needs.

There are no penalties attached to the plan, no conscription or any form of compulsion. When called upon, if the worker does not deem the offer suitable, he need not accept.

Employment agencies will be established throughout the country and to which employers will report their needs. Existing agencies will be employed where practicable.

Men of all degrees of skill will be included.

This information will be supplied only to the government department which will be officially connected with war industries.

Demands for labor will first be investigated by the department of labor that the labor market in that locality may be utilized, rather than flood that locality with workers.

"As the success of the plan depends upon the hearty co-operation of the A. F. of L. executive council has the council in its summarization of the proposal, it seems unnecessary to give assurance that the well-known policy of the department of labor in time of strike will be continued in this case."

The indorsement of this plan includes the statement that before any additions or changes shall be made in regard to the above the president members of the executive council should be consulted.

WAR BRINGS NEW ISSUE.

Joliet, Ill., Nov. 2.—In what was probably the first interpretation of a state federation of labor over held, the 80 delegates to the Illinois federation of labor convention adopted this declaration relative to the war:

"Whatever may have been the original cause or pretext to disturb the tranquility of the nations of the world, the present war has developed an overshadowing issue of the world's contest today is the preservation and extension of democracy. The struggle is democracy the world over. While it is true that there are some financial, commercial and material reasons which are insincere in their patriotic protestations, the struggle is one in which the constitution in plain and distinct terms confers upon it.

"The constitution provides during the power upon congress has not prescribed the mode in which the militia shall be called, but does not prescribe the extent of the militia in conferred fully, completely, and unquestionably. It is for congress to determine the number of men the army be raised. It is left to congress to determine whether it shall be raised by conscription. At the time the constitution was adopted conscription was unknown. The method of raising armies, but had been resorted to by the governments of Europe for centuries. It has been intended that congress should not have the power to raise anything than a volunteer army. The grant of power would have been restricted by amendments.

"Conscription was resorted to by both sides during the civil war, and was declared by the courts to be upheld by the courts in the north and south."

MINERS' CHIEF RESIGNS.

Indianapolis, Nov. 2.—John P. White has resigned as president of the United Mine Workers of America, it was announced today. He will be succeeded by William Green, now chief executive of the coal organization, while Statistician John L. Lewis will be promoted to the vice-presidency left vacant by the resignation of Mr. White. Green's election will be announced at the miners' executive board, Mr. White said.

"This will not occasion any great change in the policies of the union," he says, "as I have known for some time that I have contemplated retiring.

"Recent amendments of our organization have made it possible for me to relinquish the position earlier than I had expected, and I am pleased with the fact that I have been chosen as an object of President Wilson's favor, for Dr. H. A. Garfield, at Washington, promote me to the course I am now pursuing."

CAR MEN GET EIGHT HOURS.

Portland, Ore., Nov. 3.—"Again does Oregon lead the country," is the boast of Division No. 757, local No. 757, which has secured an agreement with the local traction company which provides that two days practicable the working time of all train men shall be made eight hours per day.

Wages are increased, arbitration agreed to and the company pledges itself to employ union men only. The pay for time lost where it is held to have been proven, after a joint investigation by the company and the union, that he has been wrongfully discharged.

JOHN M'BRIDE INTERRED.

Columbus, Ohio, Nov. 3.—The funeral of the late John McBride, one time president of the A. F. of L., was held here today. The end has ceased had often expressed the wish to be laid away by the United Mine Workers of America.

The pall bearers were all members of the union. Among the speakers at the grave was Chris Evans, secretary of the A. F. of L.

John McBride, who died deceased was living in Arizona. He was killed by a runaway horse.

MINERS WERE ROBBED.

Cumberland, Md., Nov. 3.—Officials of the Pinnacle and Georges Creek Mining company have plead guilty to charges of robbing miners by false measure of light-weight coals. A representative of the federal bureau of mines testified that he found the weights grossed which made the coal weigh from 2 to 10 pounds more on each mine car.

MACHINISTS RAISE WAGES.

Jamestown, N. Y., Nov. 3.—Machinists employed by the Cutler-Hammer Mfg. Co. have received a wage increase of 5 cents an hour.

SECURE EIGHT HOURS.

Baltimore, Nov. 3.—Tread makers in this city have been secured their eight-hour day and increased pay.